

b1

Notice: More than one reissue application has been filed for the reissue of Patent No. 4,861,711. The reissue applications are application number 08/544,579, filed October 18, 1995, now U.S. Reissue Patent No. RE37,437 E, and 09/820,974 (the present application), a continuation of 08/544,579.

REMARKS

The amendment to the specification merely provides notice of a related reissue application and correctly identifies this application as a continuation application of Application No. 08/544,579. The amendment adds no new matter.

Claims 35 to 42, 45 to 51, 53, 54, 56, and 57 are under consideration in the application.

Surrender of Patent

The Examiner notes that the original patent, or a statement as to loss or inaccessibility of the original patent must be received before this reissue application can be allowed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.178. See Office Action p. 2, Item 1. Applicants note that the original patent was previously surrendered during the prosecution of the parent application 08/544,579, now U.S. Reissue Patent RE37,437 E. Specifically, Applicants surrendered the original patent on May 8, 2000 in that case. Consequently, the original patent has been surrendered.

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com

CONCLUSION

Applicants assert that pending claims 35 to 42, 45 to 51, 53, 54, 56, and 57 are allowable and request a timely issuance of a Notice of Allowance.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: June 13, 2003

By: Charles E. Van Hom
Charles E. Van Hom
Reg. No. 40,266

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com